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COVID-19 Legislative Update

March 1, 2021

COVID-19 Legislative Updates are published every Monday evening. For past updates, click [here](#). For updates before May 8, 2021 click [here](#). If you believe you have been accidentally unsubscribed, you can re-subscribe [here](#).

3.1.2021. COVID-19 Legislative Update

Legislation

Supplemental V – The American Rescue Plan

Timeline/Process: Last Friday night, **the House passed the American Rescue Plan** by a vote of 219-212 with two Democrats, Rep. Kurt Schrader and Rep. Jared Golden, joining Republicans in voting no. **The Senate plan to take up the bill as early as Tuesday afternoon, though it's likely to slip to Wednesday.** The Senate will go through 20 hours of debate before moving to "voterama", likely on Thursday or Friday. The Senate parliamentarian [ruled](#) last Thursday that the minimum wage provisions had merely incidental budgetary effects and thus are not germane under reconciliation rules. That portion of the bill will be removed in the Senate and require another vote in the House before moving to the President for his signature. The goal is to pass the bill before March 14, when unemployment insurance expires.

Politics: The rejection of the minimum wage piece by the Senate parliamentarian may be a blessing in disguise for Democrats. **Multiple moderate Senate Democrats had voiced opposition to a wage increase, imperiling the bill's path in the Senate, while progressives in the House [indicated](#) that they might withhold votes if minimum wage was removed or decreased because of moderates' objections.** With the parliamentarian's ruling, Democrats can blame the rules rather than certain members of their caucus. After the parliamentarian's ruling on Thursday, Senate Budget Committee Chair Bernie Sanders and Senate Finance Committee Chair Ron Wyden stated that they would be working on tax provisions to penalize large companies who pay low wages and incentivize small businesses to raise wages. However, over the weekend the tax proposal

not over yet, as **23 House progressives** [sent a letter to the administration today calling for them to overrule the parliamentarian](#) and keep minimum wage in, pointing to precedent in the 1960s. This evening, Sen. Sanders [indicated](#) that he would be offering an amendment to raise the wage to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour.

Policy: We could see a range of changes in the Senate. The removal of the minimum wage provision is the most obvious, but we could see changes elsewhere – an additional month of [unemployment insurance](#), changes in income eligibility for direct payments. Partial Senate text [here](#) – it is missing health sections and others that are still being drafted, scored, and ruled on by the parliamentarian. House-passed text [here](#).

House Committee summaries below:

- **Ways and Means**: press release [here](#) (with links to text and section by section summaries), Joint Committee on Taxation summary [here](#)
- **Energy and Commerce**: more details specific to health response funding are [here](#), section by section in the committee memo [here](#), public health text [here](#), Medicaid section text [here](#), CHIP section text [here](#), other provisions text [here](#)
- **Oversight and Reform**: one pager [here](#), committee print [here](#)
- **Education and Labor**: press release [here](#), fact sheet [here](#), section by section [here](#), text [here](#)
- **Small Business**: committee print [here](#), text [here](#)
- **Transportation and Infrastructure**: text [here](#)
- **Financial Services**: committee print [here](#), section by section in the committee memo [here](#), text [here](#)
- **Agriculture**: text [here](#)
- **Veterans Affairs**: text [here](#), section by section [here](#)

Congressional Budget Office [scores](#) for nine of the sections of the bill below:

- Agriculture Committee: \$16.1 billion
- Education and Labor Committee: \$281.3 billion
- Energy and Commerce Committee: \$124.7 billion
- Financial Services Committee: \$72.9 billion
- Oversight and Reform Committee: \$350.4 billion
- Small Business Committee: \$49.8 billion
- Transportation and Infrastructure Committee: \$90.5 billion
- Veterans Affairs Committee: \$16.6 billion
- Ways and Means Committee: \$927.3 billion

Passed Legislation

Moving forward, this section will only include new information and guidance. For past information and guidance and passed legislation, please refer to the [archives](#). For a summary of all the supplementals that have been passed, please see [here](#).

- There has been no new information and guidance since the previous update.

Members of Congress Affected by COVID-19

New additions in bold. As of January 15, the below list only includes members of the 117th Congress and thus is not cumulative across Congresses.

Tested Positive Recently (0):

Died from COVID-19 (1): Rep. Ron Wright (R-TX)

Recovered from COVID-19 (68): Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY), Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA), Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY), Rep. Neal Dunn (R-FL), Rep. Tom Rice (R-SC), Rep. Morgan Griffith (R-VA), Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX), Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL), Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Rep. Dan Meuser (R-PA), Rep. Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon (R-Puerto Rico at large), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT), Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC), Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI), Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL), Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-MI), Rep. Drew Ferguson (R-GA), Rep. Don Young (R-AK), Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL), Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI), Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-IL), Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO), Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO), Rep. Brian Steil (R-WI), Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT), Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-TX), Rep. Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV), Rep. Austin Scott (R-GA), Rep. Ted Budd (R-NC), Rep. Robert Aderholt (R-AL), Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA), Rep. Barry Loudermilk (R-GA), Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA), Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC), Rep. Mike Rogers (R-AL), Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Maria Salazar (R-FL), Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX), Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX), Rep. Michelle Steel (R-CA), Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Rep. Jake LaTurner (R-KS), Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN), Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-WA), Rep. Brad Schneider (D-IL), Rep. Adriano Espaillat (D-NY), Rep. Lou Correa (D-CA), Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA), Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA), Rep. Lori Trahan (D-MA)

Currently Self-Quarantined (0):

Completed Quarantine (52): Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-SC), Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA), Rep. Sharice Davids (D-KS), Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL), Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO), Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA), Sen. Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL), Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY), Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Rep. Vincente Gonzalez (D-TX), Rep. David Schweikert (R-AZ), Rep. Anthony Brindisi (D-NY), Rep. David Price (D-NC), Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO), Rep. Kathleen Rice (D-NY), Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA), Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA), Rep. Frederica Wilson (D-FL), Rep. Andy Kim (D-NJ), Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT), Sen. Mitt Romney (R-UT), Rep. Katie Porter (D-CA), Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA), Rep. Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX), Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ), Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Rep. Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ), Rep. Randy Weber (R-TX), Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA), Rep. Jody Hice (R-GA), Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA), Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE), Sen. James Lankford (R-OK), Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI), Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)



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